



Plumas Conservation, Restoration and Education in Watersheds (P-CREW) provides opportunities for urban and rural teens to expand their education, gain job skills and restore the environment.

P-CREW hires two diverse groups of twelve, 10th-12th grade students, for a 5-week paid program where they live, work, play, and learn in the Plumas and Lassen National Forests. Six urban teens from the Bay Area and six rural teens from Plumas,



Butte, and Lassen county, per session, are brought together to learn about the Feather River Watershed (the source of their drinking water), environmental education and to perform field

conservation work in conjunction with the Forest Service. Students work 8 hours a day, 40 hours a week with their two experienced crew leaders, pulling invasive plant species, maintaining trails including the Pacific Crest Trail, hand releasing trees, installing deer guzzlers and more. While earning nearly \$1,200 dollars they discover how to work together, embrace their differences and achieve their common goals.

In efforts to help youth explore nature who may not normally have the opportunity, we provide all gear, food, and transportation for participants during their

5 weeks as well as mental and emotional support. P-CREW has seen 50% Caucasian, 33% Hispanic, 7% African American, 6% Asian, 3% Native American, and 1 % East Indian participants. 42% of the crews have been male while 58% have been female. Urban participants make up 54% of the past crews and 46% have been rural.

Since the start of the program in the summer of 2015, crews have accomplished: brushing over 5 miles of trail, maintaining 2.25 mi of tread, installing 7 deer guzzlers, reducing fuel from over 8 acres including campsites and structural buildings, creating 300 burn piles by hand, and removing 2,000 plants, plus 15 acres, and 480 gallons of invasive species, and removing 639 ft. of cedar fencing.

Participants go home with more than work experience and education about the forest. They leave with life skills and confidence.

“I did change and grow as a result of P-CREW by appreciating more of what I have and not being so shy. I grew out of my shell and felt happy about it.” -Sonia Avalos, Oakland, CA

“I learned a lot about myself, like I didn't know how strong I am until I challenge myself.” ~Johana, age 17

